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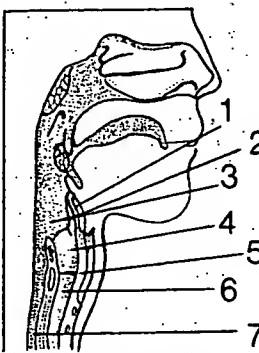
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: SUPREME. ULTIMATE c : DISTINCT. SEPARATE — used as an intensive (at every ~ piece of food on the plate) — last-ly *adv*

syn LAST. FINAL. TERMINAL. EVENTUAL. ULTIMATE mean following all others (as in time, order, or importance). LAST applies to something that comes at the end of a series but does not always imply that the series is completed or stopped (*last page of a book*) (*last news we had of him*) FINAL applies to that which definitely closes a series, process, or progress (*final day of school*) TERMINAL may indicate a limit of extension, growth, or development (*terminal phase of a disease*) EVENTUAL applies to something that is bound to follow sooner or later as the final effect of causes already operating (*eventual defeat of the enemy*) ULTIMATE implies the last degree or stage of a long process beyond which further progress or change is impossible (*ultimate collapse of which*)

last adv (bef. 12c) 1 : after all others : at the end (came ~ and left first) 2 : most lately (saw him ~ in New York) 3 : in conclusion (and ~, I'd like to consider the economic aspect)

last n (13c) : something that is last — *at last* or *at long last* : at the end of a period of time; FINALLY (*at last you've come home*)

last-ditch adj (1937) : made as a final effort esp. to avert disaster (a ~ attempt to raise the money)

last ditch n (1715) : a place of final defense

Last-tex \las-teks\ trademark — used for an elastic yarn consisting of a core of latex thread wound with threads of cotton, rayon, nylon, or silk

last hurrah n [*fr.* *The Last Hurrah* (1956) by Edwin O'Connor †1968 Am. novelist] (1956) : a last effort or attempt (his unsuccessful Senate run was his *last hurrah* —R. W. Daly)

last-in-first-out adj (ca. 1940) : oil, relating to, or being a method of inventory accounting that values all stock on hand at the cost of the lot last received

lasting adj (12c) : existing or continuing a long while : ENDURING — *lasting-ly \las-tin-ly\ adv* — *lasting-ness n*

syn LASTING, PERMANENT. DURABLE. STABLE mean enduring for so long as to seem fixed or established. LASTING implies a capacity to continue indefinitely (a book that left *lasting* impression on me) PERMANENT adds usu. the implication of being designed or planned to stand or continue indefinitely (*permanent* living arrangement) DURABLE implies power to resist destructive agencies (*durable* fabrics) STABLE implies lastingness because of resistance to being overturned or displaced (a *stable government*)

lasting n (15c) 1 *archaic* : long life 2 : a sturdy cotton or worsted cloth used esp. in shoes and luggage

Last Judgment n (14c) : the judgment of mankind before God at the end of the world

last minute n (1920) : the moment just before some climactic, decisive, or disastrous event

last name n (1897) : SURNAME 2

last rites n (ca. 1930) : EXTREME UNCTION

last straw n [*fr.* the fable of the last straw that broke the camel's back when added to its burden] (1848) : the last of a series (as of events or indignities) that brings one beyond the point of endurance

Last Supper n (14c) : the supper eaten by Jesus and his disciples on the night of his betrayal

Last Things n pl [trans. of ML *Novissima*] (1522) : events (as the resurrection and divine judgment of all humankind) marking the end of the world : eschatological happenings

last word n (1563) 1 : the final remark in a verbal exchange 2 a : the power of final decision b : a definitive statement or treatment (this study will surely be the *last word* on the subject for many years) 3 : the most advanced, up-to-date, or fashionable exemplar of its kind (the *last word* in sports cars)

lat-a-kia \lat-ə-kiə\ n [*Latakia*, seaport in Syria] (1833) : a highly aromatic Turkish smoking tobacco

latch \laч\ vi [ME *lochen*, fr. OE *leccan*; akin to Gk *lambanein* to take, seize] (bef. 12c) 1 : to catch or get hold — used with *on* or *onto* 2 : to attach oneself (*~ed onto a rich widow*)

latch n (13c) : any of various devices in which mating mechanical parts engage to fasten but usu. not to lock something: a : a fastener (as for a door) consisting essentially of a pivoted bar that falls into a notch b : a fastener (as for a door) in which a spring slides a bolt into a hole; also: NIGHT LATCH

latch vi (15c) : to make fast with or as if with a latch

latch-et \laч-ət\ n [ME *lachet*, fr. MF, shoestring, fr. *laz* snare; fr. L *laqueus*; akin to L *lacere* to entice — more at DELIGHT] (15c) : a narrow leather strap, thong, or cord that fastens a shoe or sandal on the foot

latch-key \laч-ki\ n (1825) : a key to an outside and esp. a front door

latchkey child n (1944) : a young child of working parents who must spend part of the day at home unsupervised

latch-string \laч-strin\ n (1791) : a string on a latch that may be left hanging outside the door to permit the raising of the latch from the outside or drawn inside to prevent intrusion

late \lait\ adj [lat-er] ; *lat-est* [ME, late, slow, fr. OE *læs*; akin to OHG *laz* slow, OE *lētan* to let] (bef. 12c) 1 a (1) : coming or remaining after the due, usual, or proper time (a ~ spring) (2) : of, relating to, or imposed because of tardiness b : of or relating to an advanced stage in point of time or development (the ~ Middle Ages); esp : far advanced toward the close of the day or night (~ hours) 2 a : living comparatively recently — used of persons (the ~ John Doe) and often with reference to a specific relationship or status (his ~ wife) b : being something or holding some position or relationship recently but not now (the ~ belligerents). c : made, appearing, or happening just previous to the present time esp. as the most recent of a succession (our ~ quarrel) *syn* DEAD — *late-ness n*

late adv lat-er; lat-est (bef. 12c) 1 a : after the usual or proper time (got to work ~) b : at or to an advanced point of time (saw her ~ in the day) — often used with *on* (work until noon and relax *later* on) 2 : not long ago : RECENTLY (a man ~ of Chicago) — of late : in

\ə\ about \kitten, F table \ɔ\ further \a\ ash \æ\ ace \e\ cot, cart
 \au\ our \ch\ chin \e\ let \ɛ\ easy \o\ go \i\ hit \ɪ\ ice \ʊ\ job
 \ɪ\ sing \ɒ\ long \o\ law \ø\ boy \θ\ thin \h\ the \v\ loot \u\ foot
 \ʌ\ yet \z\h\ vision \a, k, \æ, \e, \e, \i, \u see Guide to Pronunciation